



KEY NOTES

e-newsletter of the Maryland War of 1812 Bicentennial Commission

July 23, 2010

The First Issue!

This is the first issue of *Key Notes*, the e-newsletter of the [Maryland War of 1812 Bicentennial Commission](#). We hope to complement the quarterly e-newsletter of the [Star-Spangled Banner National Historic Trail](#) by creating a monthly publication that features updates from the Commission, as well as information about 1812-related groups and stakeholders around the state. Each issue will have links to upcoming events, grant deadlines and recent news. We hope you find it informative!

To include information about your bicentennial planning efforts in future issues, contact [Kate Marks](#) at 410-767-6974.

June Commission Meeting



Commission Executive Director Bill Pencek presents during the June 23 meeting.

Gov. Martin O'Malley hosted the second meeting of the Maryland War of 1812 Bicentennial Commission, June 23, at Government House in Annapolis. The group discussed bicentennial-tourism plans, the [U.S. Navy/OpSail](#) national kickoff in Maryland, and the development of water and land routes along the [Star-Spangled Banner National Historic Trail](#). State Senate President Thomas V. Mike Miller and House Speaker Michael E. Busch attended the meeting.

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Upcoming Events

[14th Annual Battle of Bladensburg Encampment](#)

August 14, 2010

[Smithsonian Resident Associate Program Tour - The Burning of Washington: The British Invasion of 1814](#)

August 15, 2010

[The 8th Annual War of 1812 Re-enactment Weekend at Hancock's Resolution](#)

August 21-22, 2010

[1814 British Invasion of Prince](#)

North Point Star-Spangled 200 Conference



Participants tour Fort Howard (left) and North Point Battlefield Park (right).

On June 22, the Maryland War of 1812 Bicentennial Commission held its fifth of six regional conferences at North Point. More than 80 people attended the conference, which was sponsored by the [Baltimore County Department of Economic Development and Tourism](#). The day began at [North Point State Park](#) Visitor Center where Baltimore County Executive Jim Smith gave opening remarks and introduced the Baltimore County War of 1812 Bicentennial Advisory Committee (see article below). Presentations by Vince Vaise, Ed Seufert and Ross Kimmel followed. Participants then toured Fort Howard, Todd's Inheritance, Aquila Randall Monument, North Point Battlefield Park, Methodist Meeting House and Battle Acre.

SAVE THE DATE!

The Baltimore City Star-Spangled 200 Conference is
November 10, 2010.

Maryland Heritage Areas Authority Grants

Maryland nonprofit groups, museums, and local governments received 55 matching grants totaling \$2.6 million from the [Maryland Heritage Areas Authority](#) for heritage tourism projects and activities that expand economic development throughout the state. Several War of 1812 projects received funding (list below). For more information, see the [full press release](#).

Regional Updates

Baltimore City

The [Baltimore National Heritage Area](#) (BNHA) hired Jack Spinnler as the city's planner for the War of 1812 bicentennial. Spinnler will work with local stakeholders to develop a plan for Baltimore's 1812 commemoration. He had a 30-year career with the National Park Service, where he planned 500 wayside exhibits and led more than 30 long-range planning projects. To reach Spinnler, call 301-473-2117, or e-mail davespinn@netzero.com.

The Baltimore Heritage Area is working with city partners to develop a War of 1812 traveling exhibit, which will promote awareness and tourism in Baltimore and the Chesapeake region. Dean Kimmel, a consultant with [Qm²](#), and the design group [Xibitz](#) have been selected to help create the exhibit.

[George's County Bus Tour](#)

August 28, 2010

[Defenders Day Celebration at Fort Howard Park](#)

September 5, 2010

[Star-Spangled Banner Weekend at Fort McHenry National Monument](#)

September 11-12, 2010

[War of 1812 Re-enactment and Encampment and Tavern Night](#)

September 18, 2010

Recent News

[Maryland prepares grand salute to War of 1812](#), *The Baltimore Sun*, July 12, 2010

[VA seeking bidders for Fort Howard](#), *Baltimore Business Journal*, June 25, 2010

[Reactions mixed to commemorative 1812 license plate](#), *The Baltimore Sun*, June 14, 2010

Read more [news](#).

Upcoming Grant Deadlines

August 12, 2010

National Endowment for the Arts
[Access to Artistic Excellence Grants](#)

August 18, 2010

National Endowment for the Humanities
[America's Historical and Cultural Organizations: Implementation Grants](#)

[America's Media Makers: Development Grants](#)

[America's Media Makers: Production Grants](#)

[America's Historical and Cultural Organizations: Planning Grants](#)

Links



[Fort McHenry National Monument and Historic Shrine](#) offers two free ranger-tours of the Baltimore National Heritage Area. Inner Harbor: The Star-Spangled City is a 40-minute tour that starts at the Inner Harbor Visitors Center, 11:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. daily. Fells Point: Privateers and Preservation is a 45-minute tour that begins at the corner of Broadway and Thames streets, 2 p.m., Monday

through Friday.

The [Friends of Fort McHenry](#) and [Living Classrooms Foundation](#) jointly received \$40,000 from the [Maryland Heritage Areas Authority](#) for development of the Star-Spangled Virtual Resource Center, an online portal for War of 1812 educational information.

Baltimore County



The Baltimore County War of 1812 Bicentennial Advisory Committee.

At the North Point Star-Spangled 200 Conference on June 22, Baltimore County Executive Jim Smith [announced](#) the formation of a Baltimore County War of 1812 Bicentennial Advisory Committee. The committee will work to educate, engage, and celebrate Baltimore County's War of 1812 heritage during Maryland's statewide bicentennial celebration. The committee is chaired by Francis Taylor of the North Point Peninsula Community Coordinating Council. Carolyn Mroz, president of Todd's Inheritance, is vice chair. The Bicentennial Advisory Committee, a subcommittee of the Baltimore County Conference and Tourism Advisory Committee, includes members who are business people, county and state planners, historians, preservationists, educators, researchers, community leaders and citizens.

Eastern Shore

The Eastern Shore 1812 Consortium, made up of Queen Anne's, Talbot, Caroline, Kent, and Dorchester counties, has a web site - www.easternshore1812.org - that features period newspapers and information on local citizens involved in war. Upcoming projects include the development of lesson plans and audio tours.

Head of the Bay

Two entities in the [Lower Susquehanna Heritage Greenway Heritage Area](#) received grants from the [Maryland Heritage Areas Authority](#) for their War of 1812-related projects. The town of Perryville received \$57,000 for Rodgers Tavern Facility Readiness Project III and the [Havre de Grace Decoy Museum](#) received \$34,000 for



[Maryland War of 1812 Bicentennial Commission](#)



[Star-Spangled Banner National Historic Trail](#)



[Baltimore National Heritage Area](#)

[Eastern Shore 1812 Consortium](#)

[Historic Prince George's](#)

Reconstructing Havre de Grace's Community History – The War of 1812.

Cecilton Elementary School in Cecil County presented one of the nation's Living American Flags on May 25. About 340 students, teachers and parents participated. The annual event of the [American Flag Foundation](#) – traditionally occurring at [Fort McHenry](#) in Baltimore – is a re-enactment of the original "human flag" formed on Defenders Day, Sept. 12, 1914, at the fort, which marked the 100th anniversary of the "Defense of Baltimore." [Cecil County Tourism's Heritage Troupe](#) also performed at the school with skits that depicted how two county residents – Judge Sample and Kitty Knight – witnessed events during the War of 1812.

Prince George's County

Walter James, mayor of Bladensburg, hosted a meeting with local stakeholders on March 9 and a task force, led by the [Anacostia Trails Heritage Area](#), was created. Members include heritage experts, staff from local and county government, [Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission](#) and area historic sites. The Task Force has been working with partners to coordinate planning for programs and events, capital and transportation improvements, and other initiatives to prepare for the Battle of Bladensburg bicentennial. On June 23, the Task Force hosted a successful planning "charette" where stakeholders generated ideas to improve visitor experience, provide long-term enhancement to existing resources and boost the economy of the local area.

The [Port Towns Community Development Corporation](#) received \$35,250 from the [Maryland Heritage Areas Authority](#) for its *War of 1812: Bladensburg Mural/Port Town Industrial Revolution Mural* project.

Southern Maryland

The [Calvert Marine Museum](#) recently received a \$6,500 grant from the [Maryland Heritage Areas Authority](#) for the *Southern Maryland 1812 Map and Guide*. This project involves [Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum](#), [Sotterley Plantation](#), and the tourism offices in [Calvert](#), [Charles](#) and [St. Mary's](#) counties. The museum is also considering a War of 1812-themed Elderhostel in 2012-2014 and 1812 cruises on their historic bugeye, the *Wm. B. Tennison*. The Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum is creating a War of 1812 exhibit and is planning for a bicentennial re-enactment of the Battle(s) of St. Leonard Creek in June 2014. Other projects include a 2012 speaker series hosted by partners throughout the region.



A group in St. Mary's County formed a War of 1812 Committee made up of museum, tourism, educational, historic and county officials. The Committee has reviewed sites for consideration on the [Star Spangled Banner National Historic Trail](#). A [GIS map](#) (left) depicts these sites and include: [Point Lookout State Park](#), St. Inigoes, St. George's Island, Leonardtown Wharf, [Christ Episcopal Church \(Chaptico\)](#), Cedar Point, and [Sotterley Plantation](#). The committee will also explore interpreting domestic life of local citizens during the war and the conflict's long-term effects on the county's citizens.

Joshua Barney on Facebook



Joshua Barney, a Maryland native and U.S. Navy hero during the War of 1812, has a Facebook page on behalf of the Maryland War of 1812 Bicentennial Commission. "[Friend](#)" him to learn more about him and receive updates and news from the Commission.

Commission staff received a pleasant surprise a few days after creating the page - descendants of Barney saw the profile, became "friends" of the commodore and are staying in touch!

Learn more about War of the 1812 initiatives in the area through the following social media outlets:

Twitter

[Maryland War of 1812 Bicentennial Commission](#)
[Star-Spangled Banner National Historic Trail](#)
[Fort McHenry](#)

Facebook

[Maryland War of 1812 Bicentennial Commission](#)
[Star-Spangled Banner National Historic Trail](#)
[Fort McHenry](#)
[Star-Spangled Banner Flag House](#)

Are we missing your organization in this list? [Let us know!](#)

Featured Site



[Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum](#) is the site of the Battle(s) of St. Leonard Creek where British ships fought against Joshua Barney and the U.S. Chesapeake Flotilla. Interpretative panels explain the significance of the battles and additional exhibits are in the park's Visitor Center.

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